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Committees
Economic Development, Small
Business and Regulatory Reform VC
Families and Human Services VC
Government Operations
Health Policy

The Jacobs Report

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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GOVERNOR PRESENTS UNEMPLOYMENT EXTENSION

Jobless workers still pounding the pavement in search of work got some good news Thursday with the announcement the state had issued the first checks for extended unemployment benefits.

Gov. Jennifer Granholm traveled to Southgate near Detroit to present unemployment checks to several jobless workers who were among the first to apply for benefits under a new state law authorizing an additional 13 weeks of aid.

Granholm said the state is working to ensure that Michigan "maintains its manufacturing backbone so we can build upon it by making our state a hub for high-tech, high-skill job growth."

"This administration is committed to making sure that these workers are soon receiving checks from new employers," Granholm said.

According to state officials, about 53,000 jobless workers will qualify for the extended benefits at a total cost of about \$206 million. Jobless workers will be eligible for weekly checks of up to \$362.

THOMPSON CHARTER BILL TO GOVERNOR

The Secretary of the Senate is expected to send Gov. Granholm a bill today that would allow Belleville philanthropist Bob THOMPSON to open 15 new charter schools.

Following an unproductive Thursday meeting between the governor, Senate Republican Leader Ken Sikkema (R-Wyoming), Senate Democratic Leader Bob Emerson, Detroit Mayor Kwame Kilpatrick, Detroit Schools Chief Executive Officer Ken Burnley; Sen. Sikkema asked Secretary Carol Viventi to finally sign enrolled SB 393 today, three weeks after Senate leadership asked her to put the bill in the suspended animation in hopes that a deal on a more comprehensive charter school package could be struck with the administration.

"We have spent far too much time doing nothing about charters," Sikkema said.

The decision to unlock SB 393 puts Granholm in the uncomfortable position over the next 14 days of having to say no to a \$200 million commitment Thompson is willing to put into the City of Detroit. Granholm has said before that she doesn't want to sign any charter school bill that doesn't address increased charter accountability and end the ability of Bay Mills Community College to charter an infinite number of public school academies.

Granholm Press Secretary Liz Boyd remained hopeful, saying that, "We're still optimistic for a compromise ... We're close."

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CONSUMER INFORMATION – CLIP AND SAVE

The Heat and Warmth Fund (THAW) – assists residents who are behind in their heat, electricity, or water bills

For general information call 1-800-552-1183, or:
In Southfield: 248-443-2230 ext. 309 or 248-827-0668
In Farmington Hills: 248-477-1153

MDOT Lane Closure Website – website to help avoid construction delays

www.mdot.state.mi.us/laneclosure

Information about home owner's, renter's, and automobile insurance in Michigan.

<http://www.michigan.gov/cis>

Click on the link for the Office of Financial and Insurance Services

Michigan Career Portal - this site is a bridge to state and national employment, career, education and training resources.

<http://www.michigan.gov/careers>

Oakland County Prescription Savings Program - This program makes it possible for you to acquire your medications at a reduced rate.

<http://www.co.oakland.mi.us/npa/60.html>

Or call 1-866-731-7213

For information about additional prescription plans please contact Senator Jacobs' office at 1-888-YES-GILDA

Oakland County Resources Directory – links to information about eldercare, housing assistance, family support services, protective services, legal services, and much more.

http://www.co.oakland.mi.us/health/directory/dir_index.html

The National Do Not Call Registry - gives you an opportunity to limit the telemarketing calls you receive.

www.donotcall.gov or call 1-888-382-1222; for TTY call 1-866-290-4236

Beginning October 1, 2003, [most telemarketers](#) will be required to remove the numbers on the registry from their call lists.

Oakland County Friend of the Court - provides services to parties with minor children involving divorce, family support, interstate and paternity cases.

Oakland Pointe Office Building
230 Elizabeth Lake Road
Pontiac, Michigan, 48341
Phone: 248-858-0424

Hours: 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday
<http://www.co.oakland.mi.us/foc/>

State Senator Gilda Jacobs represents the 14th Senate District, which includes Beverly Hills, Bingham Farms, Farmington, Farmington Hills, Ferndale, Franklin, Hazel Park, Huntington Woods, Lathrup Village, Oak Park, Pleasant Ridge, Royal Oak Township, Southfield, and Southfield Township. She is the Minority Vice Chair of the Families & Human Services Committee and the Economic Development, Small Business & Regulatory Reform Committee. She also serves on the Government Operations and Health Policy Committees.

Constituents of the 14th District may contact Senator Jacobs at sengjacobs@senate.michigan.gov or toll-free at 1-888-937-4453.

This newsletter is produced in single-space form in order to save paper and transmission costs.

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